

Jesus may have sent demons into pigs because pigs were considered ritually unclean in Judaism. Where else would unclean spirits belong?



### **WHEN PIGS FLY!**

**The demons came out of the man and entered the swine, and the herd rushed down the steep bank into the lake and was drowned.**

Luke 8:33

## *Service for the Lord's Day*

June 23, 2019

### *Gathering Around the Word*

**Gathering Music**

**Striking of the Hour**

**Welcome**

**Prelude**

*Pilgrim's Chorus*

Richard Wagner

*All who are able may stand*

**Opening Sentences:** *(Congregational response in bold)*

An impossibility might be said to occur only "when pigs fly."

**But nothing is impossible for God.**

We will put our trust in God who makes miracles, and in Jesus Christ whose signs point us to the kingdom of heaven.

**We will give thanks to God at last.**

Praise the Lord!

**The Lord's name be praised!**

**Lighting of the Candles**

**Opening Hymn 35**

*Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty*

LOBE DEN HERREN

**Call to Confession**

Are you ready for God to do the unexpected?

The seasons changed from Spring to Summer this week. What needs to change in your life?

## Prayer of Adoration and Confession (Unison)

Lord, we confess our ability to accommodate evil. We pray to be delivered. Our ability to bind ourselves to this broken world shields us from seeing the new creation you intend. What is beautiful and saving seems strangely impossible to us, and the emptiness of sin begins to feel like our lot in life. Rescue us from our despairing thoughts! Remind us that all things are possible for you! Accommodation and poor choices have made us weak. We pray, O God, that you will make us strong again.

*A period of silence is observed for personal confession*

## Declaration of Good News

### Response

*Bless the Lord*

KENYAN, SOURCE UNKNOWN

Listen to Choir and Join in as You Are Able

The musical score is written for a choir and is in 4/4 time with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). It consists of two systems of staves. The first system has a vocal line and a piano accompaniment line. The vocal line begins with a Cantor's part: "1. My sis - ters, my sis - ters, my sis - ters," followed by the instruction "ALL: BLESS THE LORD, BLESS THE LORD,". The piano accompaniment provides harmonic support. The second system continues the vocal line with "2. My bro - thers, BLESS THE LORD: THERE IS NO OTH - ER GOD." and concludes with a double bar line. The piano accompaniment continues throughout.

### Passing the Peace of Christ

We greet the Lord by greeting one another in his name.

## *Hearing the Word*

*All Sit*

### Prayer for Illumination

### Epistle Reading (Responsive)

Galatians 3:23-29

#### **Belonging to Jesus' Family; Heirs of a Promise**

Before the way of faith in Christ was available to us, we were placed under guard by the law. **Until we were mature, it was the Mosaic law that protected us.** We were kept in protective custody, so to speak, until the way of faith was revealed.

Let me put it another way. The law was our guardian until Christ came; it protected us until we could be made right with God through faith. **The law was our tutor and our schoolmaster, walking us to school.** And now that the way of faith has come, we no longer need the law as our guardian. **We have arrived at the place to which we were being led.**

For you are all children of God through faith in Christ Jesus. And all who have been united with Christ in baptism have put on Christ, like putting on new clothes. **We are in relationship with Jesus Christ.** There is no longer Jew or Gentile, slave or free, male and female. For you are all one in Christ Jesus. **All are invited into this relationship; none are left out.** And now that you belong to Christ, you are the true children of Abraham. You are his heirs, and God's promise to Abraham belongs to you. **We are part of Christ's family, spiritual descendants of Abraham, and participants in the covenant promise.**

It may have seemed an unlikely outcome, but we are included.

**Anthem**

*There Is a Balm In Gilead*

William Dawson

Autumn Stolle, soprano

*All Stand*

**Gospel Reading**

Luke 8:26-39

**Jesus Rescues a Man from Possession by Demons; Pigs Fly**

They arrived in the region of the Gerasenes, across the lake from Galilee. As Jesus was climbing out of the boat, a man who was possessed by demons came out to meet him. For a long time he had been homeless and naked, living in the tombs outside the town.

As soon as he saw Jesus, he shrieked and fell down in front of him. He screamed, "Why are you interfering with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? Please, I beg you, don't torture me!" For Jesus had already commanded the evil spirit to come out of him. This spirit had often taken control of the man. Even when he was placed under guard and put in chains and shackles, he simply broke them and rushed out into the wilderness, completely under the demon's power.

Jesus demanded, "What is your name?"

"Legion," he replied, for he was filled with many demons. The demons kept begging Jesus not to send them into the bottomless pit.

There happened to be a large herd of pigs feeding on the hillside nearby, and the demons begged him to let them enter into the pigs.

So Jesus gave them permission. Then the demons came out of the man and entered the pigs, and the entire herd plunged down the steep hillside into the lake and drowned.

People rushed out to see what had happened. They saw the man who had been freed from the demons. He was sitting at Jesus' feet, fully clothed and perfectly sane, and they were all afraid. Then those who had seen what happened told the others how the demon-possessed man had been healed. All the people in the region of the Gerasenes begged Jesus to go away and leave them alone, for a great wave of fear swept over them.

So Jesus returned to the boat and left, crossing back to the other side of the lake. The man who had been freed from the demons begged to go with him. But Jesus sent him home, saying, "No, go back to your family, and tell them everything God has done for you." So he went all through the town proclaiming the great things Jesus had done for him.

The fulfillment of Christ's new age is shocking to some. Note that the Gerasene pig-owners don't like it!

**Sermon**

*When Pigs Fly!*

Matthew Covington

***Responding to the Word***

**Response Hymn 181**

*Silence! Frenzied, Unclean Spirit*

EBENEZER

**Affirmation of Faith**

(A Declaration of Faith 9.2)

**All things will be renewed in Christ. In Christ God gives us a glimpse of the new creation he has already begun and will surely finish. We do not know when the final day will come. In our time we see only broken and scattered signs that the renewal of all things is under way. We do not yet see the end of cruelty and suffering in the world, in the church, or in our lives. But we see Jesus as Lord. As he stands at the center of our history, we are confident he will stand at its end. He will judge all peoples and nations. Evil will be condemned and rooted out of God's good creation. There will be no more tears or pain. All things will be made new. The fellowship of human beings with God and each other will be perfected. Amen.**

We say what we believe as a response to hearing God's word.

**Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer**

**Offering**

**Offertory**

*The Gift of Love*

American Folk Tune/arr. Hal Hopson

**Doxology**

Hymnal page 592

**Prayer of Dedication**

Offering is thanksgiving.

Buck in a Basket for June will go toward our recent Pentecost butterfly release.

*Bearing and Following the Word into the Created World*

All Stand

**Closing Hymn 746**

*Send Me, Jesus*

THUMA MINA

**Benediction**

**Postlude**

*Gloria*

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

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**WELCOME VISITORS!**

*We invite you to pick up visitor’s information on your way out, either in the narthex or on the table on the Right in the downstairs entrance hall. Ushers will be standing by to help you find them. Always know that a cordial greeting is extended by ministers, officers, and congregation.*

*If you have a fussy baby or are coughing, etc., the worship service may be viewed from the parlor via television (across the hall from the Sanctuary). Loving childcare is available in our children’s center*

**Our church Elders:** Karol Ahmed, Mark Bigler, Pam Bratcher, David Coverdale, Mary Evans, Rob Hale, Matt Hunt, Mike Kanan, John Kernohan, Tim Leigh, Nancy Moore, Pamela Napier, David Sears, and David Thomison. **Our church Deacons:** Rider Allen, Sally Calkins, Judy Clark, Rocky Cooper, Shannon Dyche, Ray Elms, Cathey Green, Jean Harris, Linda Leigh, Tom MacMillin, Debbie Morse, David Muffett, Teri Polen, Charlotte Prow, Ken Roysel, Susan Thomison, and Debbie Trickey.

**Donate Online:**

We have set up the church website to accept online donations. Just go to the website below and fill out the simple form. Donations can also be made from your smart phone. You can also scan the QR code, right.

<https://bgpresdonate.cloverdonations.com/online-donations/>



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**The Presbyterian Church, 1003 State Street, Bowling Green, KY 42101**  
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## Announcements

**USHERS:** The Simmons, Humphrey, and Moore families  
**LAY READER:** Julia Roberts  
**MEDIA PERSONNEL:** Barbara Solberg-Hale and Matt Hunt  
**NURSERY ATTENDANTS:** Alisia Mosley and Kimberly Watkins  
**LIBRARIAN:** Arnie Petrus, [arfranpe@msn.com](mailto:arfranpe@msn.com)

**LECTIONARY FOR NEXT SUNDAY, June 30:** 2 Kings 2:1–2, 6–14; Psalm 77:1–2, 11–20; Galatians 5:1, 13–25 ; Luke 9:51–62.

**DEACON OF THE WEEK** this week will be Linda Leigh. Deacons assist the Pastor in caring for our congregation. You may contact them through the church office: 270-843-4707.

**THE FLOWERS AT THE COMMUNION TABLE** are given to the glory of God, and are in memory of Echo Megan Moore. The flowers are given by Russell and Nancy Moore.

### **TODAY:**

**TODAY'S SOLOIST** is Collegiate Ensemble member, Autumn Stolle. From Owensboro, Kentucky, Autumn will be entering her sophomore year as a Voice Performance major at Western this fall. As a freshman, Autumn performed in the WKU Opera Ensemble, the Treble Makers, Choral Society, University Singers and the WKU Orchestra. She is a member of WKU's student ambassador group TOPS.

**WE WELCOME** Mike Kanan today as guest organist. He has graciously agreed to sit in for Tom Moody, who is away at a Montreat music conference.

**NEXT SUNDAY, June 30<sup>th</sup>,** we will host a reception after church to celebrate the 100<sup>th</sup> birthday of Laura Mullins. All are invited to come enjoy the fellowship and wish Laura a happy day.

**3 CENTS A MEAL COLLECTION** will be NEXT Sunday June 30. Our children and youth will come around at the offering time to collect your coins, bills and checks. \$8.10 is an individual's contribution per quarter, and we are grateful for ALL GIFTS. Every penny makes an impact. One third stays to support our Food Pantry and the remainder goes to the Presbyterian Hunger Program, which addresses the root causes of hunger at home and abroad.

**PENTECOST OFFERING:** we can still collect your gifts to the Pentecost Offering. This is designated for children-at-risk, youth and young adult ministries. We keep 40% for benefiting children-at-risk here (traditionally Buckhorn/Usperitus). Simply mark your check 'Pentecost Offering' and place in the offering plate.

**BUCK IN A BASKET** for June will pay for our Butterfly Release. Today is the last day for this collection (next week is 3 Cents a Meal).

### **COMING UP:**

**OUR CHURCH YESTERDAY, TODAY AND TOMORROW** is the theme for our Summer Sunday School, July 7-September 1. Come with us each week from 9:15-10:15 (with light breakfast) as we explore our heritage, celebrate our present and look to the future. Ages 4 and up, with nursery as needed. Light breakfast, fellowship and fun. Come learn and grow with us.

**COFFEE ORDERS** Fair Trade Coffee sales will take place on Sunday, June 30<sup>th</sup> at the church. (No chocolate orders will be available.) Please come prepared to get your order in on that day!

**PIG PICKIN' PLANNIN' MEETIN':** It is time to begin preparing for for the August 11 service and picnic at the Beard's pavilion. There will be a brief 5-minute meeting for volunteers after church on July 7 and July 21 in the Fellowship Hall. This event relies upon many volunteers, so please plan to attend one of these two meetings. If you want to help but can't attend either of these meetings, please contact David Thomison at [davidthomison@gmail.com](mailto:davidthomison@gmail.com) or 270-782-5294.

## Calendar

### **Sunday, June 23**

8:30 a.m. Fellowship  
9:30 a.m. Sunday School  
10:30 a.m. Worship  
11:30 a.m. Missions

### **Monday, June 24**

5:00 p.m. Round Table Pulpit

### **Tuesday, June 25**

11:00 a.m. Special Care  
2:00 p.m. Staff Meeting

**SUMMER SUNDAY SCHOOL** begins July 7 and we need help with morning hospitality.

Please consider bringing one or two items for breakfast. Sign up here:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f094aa9ab2ca7f49-breakfast1>

Our homeless friends will probably join us and we want to have an abundant table. We will have breakfast only as provided (cereal and milk will always be available), so please sign up to help!

You can also call the office with what you plan to provide.



**INVITATION FROM SHEPHERD'S HOUSE** Our congregation will join Shepherd's House, a new church development, for a cookout on July 5<sup>th</sup> at 5:15pm. Shepherd's House is located at 1303 East 13<sup>th</sup> Avenue.

**WHAT WOULD SUMMER BE WITHOUT ICE CREAM!?** Saturday July 13 beginning at 4:00pm we will gather for Games and Ice Cream in Fellowship Hall! Bring an appetizer to share, a favorite Ice Cream topping and any games you wish to share. Homemade Ice Cream provided. ALL AGES! Lots of fun games available here to try (and someone to teach). See Glenn or Leslee Kirkconnell with questions. We'll end whenever.

**OTHER NEWS AND COMMUNITY NEEDS:**

**NOW THAT YOU HAVE YOUR TEE SHIRT** (if you missed ordering, you can still get one - see Margaret Stein or call the office) please plan to wear them out and about! Concerts in the Park is a GREAT place to show your joy at being part of our church. They are Friday evenings, 7:00pm in Circus Square Park.

**TWILIGHT CONCERT SERIES:** presented by the Southern Kentucky Concert Band. Thursday evenings in June (6, 13, 20, 27) at the WKU Fine Arts Center Amphitheater, 7:00pm. Free and open to the public.

**HELP US WITH OUR MONTREAT MISSION PROJECT!** Those of us going to Maryville College for the Montreat Middle School Conference have been asked to bring particular items for their mission project. If you can provide some of these, that will add to what the participants are bringing: plastic grocery bags, coloring books, activity books, small packs of crayons and children's books. We will be assembling gift baskets with these items for a children's advocacy center. Please bring to the office by **July 15** (we leave July 17). Questions? Email Leslee Kirkconnell.